



CRL OP(MD). No.3667 of 2026

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

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Dated : 20/02/2026

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THE HONOURABLE MRS. JUSTICE L. VICTORIA GOWRI

CRL OP(MD). No.3667 of 2026

Sethupathi

... Petitioner

Vs

1. The State of Tamilnadu,
Rep by the Inspector of Police,
Karaikudi North Police Station
Sivagangai District.
Crime No.336 of 2024.

2. Meyyar

... Respondents

PRAYER :-

To call for the records pertaining to the proceedings in CC No.242 of 2024 on the file of the Learned Judicial Magistrate Court, Karaikudi, Sivagangai District and Quash the same.

For Petitioner : M/s.R.Balamuruganantham,
Advocate.

For Respondent : M/s.S.Ravi
Government Advocate (Crl.Side)

R2 : M/s.M.Dhanabalan



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ORDER

This Criminal Original Petition is filed under Section 482 CrPC / Section 528 BNSS, seeking to quash the charge sheet in in CC No.242 of 2024 on the file of the Learned Judicial Magistrate Court, Karaikudi, Sivagangai District.

2. The gist of the allegations in the final report is that on 20.08.2024, seeking to get married with the daughter of the defacto complainant, the petitioner / accused abused the defacto complainant with filthy language and made life threat to her. Pursuant to the complaint given by the defacto complainant / second respondent, a case in Crime No.336 of 2024 was registered on the file of the first respondent against the petitioner for the offences under Sections 296(b), 351(3) and Section 4 of Tamil Nadu Prohibition of Harassment of Woman Act, 2002 and the same culminated in laying final report in CC No.242 of 2024 before the file of the learned Judicial Magistrate, Karaikudi, Sivagangai District, for the same offences. Seeking quashment of the charge sheet, this Criminal Original Petition is filed.



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3. Admittedly, the petitioner, the second respondent are known to each other, and they have now resolved the dispute amicably. A Joint Compromise Memo dated 16.02.2026 has been filed before this Court.

4. The petitioner and the second respondent / defacto complainant are present before this Court in person and are identified by Mrs.B.Saravanan, SSI, North Police Station, Karaikudi, Sivagangai District. The defacto complainant has categorically stated that she do not wish to pursue the proceedings against the petitioner herein. This Court is satisfied that the compromise is voluntary and not the result of any coercion or undue influence.

5. The law relating to quashment of criminal proceedings on the basis of compromise between the parties is well settled. In ***Gian Singh v. State of Punjab***¹, the Hon'ble Supreme Court authoritatively held that the inherent power of the High Court under Section 482 CrPC is of wide amplitude and may be exercised to quash criminal proceedings

¹ 2012 (10) SCC 303



even in respect of non-compoundable offences, provided the dispute is essentially private in nature and the quashment would secure the ends of justice. The Court, however, drew a clear distinction between offences arising out of personal or matrimonial disputes, commercial transactions and similar private wrongs, and serious or heinous offences having grave impact on society, holding that the latter category cannot ordinarily be quashed merely on the basis of a settlement.

6. The said principles were succinctly crystallised in ***Parbatbhai Aahir v. State of Gujarat***², wherein the Supreme Court, after surveying the earlier precedents, laid down broad propositions governing the exercise of inherent jurisdiction on the basis of compromise. It was emphasised that the paramount consideration is whether the continuance of the criminal proceedings would be unfair or contrary to the interests of justice, and whether the dispute predominantly bears a civil or private character, rendering the possibility of conviction remote and bleak.

² 2017 (9) SCC 641



7. In *State of Madhya Pradesh v. Laxmi Narayan*³, the

Supreme Court reiterated and clarified the limitations on such power, holding that offences of a serious nature, particularly those involving mental depravity, grave violence, or offences against society at large, cannot be quashed on the basis of compromise, even if the parties have amicably settled the dispute. The Court further cautioned that while examining compromise quash petitions, the High Court must consider the nature and gravity of the offence, the conduct of the accused, and the stage of the proceedings, and the overall impact on society and must satisfy itself that the settlement is voluntary and not the result of coercion or undue influence.

8. Applying the aforesaid principles to the facts of the present case, this Court has carefully examined the nature and gravity of the allegations, the relationship between the parties, the conduct of the petitioner, the stage of the proceedings, and the voluntary nature of the compromise.

³ 2019 (5) SCC 688



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9. The dispute in question is predominantly private in character and does not involve any offence having serious or grave impact on society at large. In view of the compromise arrived at between the parties, the possibility of conviction is rendered remote and bleak. Continuation of the criminal proceedings would therefore serve no useful purpose and would amount to an abuse of the process of Court.

10. Accordingly, the impugned CC No.242 of 2024 before the file of the learned Judicial Magistrate, Karaikudi, Sivagangai District, is quashed and the Criminal Original Petition stands allowed. The petitioner shall pay a sum of Rs.3,000/- (Rupees Three Thousand only) to the credit of the MBHAA, in Indian Bank, Madurai Bench of Madras High Court Branch, Account No.496038755 IFSC No.IDIB000H040, MICR Code: 625019020, on or before 13.03.2026. The joint compromise memo dated 16.02.2026 shall form part and parcel of this order.



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11. The petitioner is directed to file a memo along with the photocopy of the receipt before the Registry on or before 13.03.2026.

List the matter on 16.03.2026, for reporting compliance.

20.02.2026

NCC : yes / no

Index : yes / no

Internet : yes / no

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To

1. The Judicial Magistrate, Karaikudi, Sivagangai District

2. The Inspector of Police, Karaikudi North Police Station
Sivagangai District. Crime No.336 of 2024.

3. The Additional Public Prosecutor,
Madurai Bench of Madras High Court,
Madurai.



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L. VICTORIA GOWRI,J

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IN
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Date : 20/02/2026